

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: UNDP, AORG, EGEN, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATOR GILLIGAN'S ADDRESS TO UNDP GOVERNING
COUNCIL, 24TH SESSION

1. AID ADMINISTRATOR GILLIGAN ON 16 JUNE MADE PRINCIPAL US STATE-
MENT TO THIS SESSION OF UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL. STATEMENT GENERALLY
RECEIVED AS VERY POSITIVE INDICATION OF PROSPECTS FOR STRENGTHENED
USG SUPPORT TO PROGRAM. PARTICULARLY NOTED WAS OUR WILLINGNESS
TO CONSIDER LONGER TERM FUNDING OF UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IF
NECESSARY REFORMS UNDERTAKEN. SEVERAL DC DELEGATIONS VOLUNTEERED
THAT STATE-MENT WAS VERY GOOD. SOME (E.G. JAPAN AND AUSTRIA)
APPARENTLY MODIFIED IN PART THEIR OWN SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS
TO TOUCH ON OURS.

2. MANY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN HAVING MORE DETAIL AND CLARIFICATION
REGARDING SEVERAL ASPECTS OF OUR STATEMENT, SUCH AS:

(A) COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PROPOSED LOWER
LEVEL INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY WHICH WOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE
CONTACT BETWEEN UNDP AND MEMBER GOVERNMENT IN ADDITION TO ANNUAL
GC SESSIONS;

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(B) EXTENT TO WHICH OUR SET OF PROPOSALS REPRESENTS AN
INTEGRAL PACKAGE, ALL OF WHOSE ELEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE SATISFIED
BEFORE WE WOULD GO FORWARD WITH INCREASED MULTIYEAR FUNDING; AND

(C) PROPOSED CONCENTRATION OF RESOURCES ON BASIC NEEDS
WITHIN POOREST LDCS.

3. SOME DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED CONCERN REGARDING IMPLICATIONS FOR UNDP'S UNIVERSALITY OF ANY CUT-OFF IN ITS PROGRAMS FOR COUNTRIES OTHER THAN POOREST LDCS. ONE DC DELEGATION (FRANCE) IN PARTICULAR FEARED OUR STATEMENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN TOO STRONG (OR BLUNT) IN THIS REGARD AND IN ITS INSISTENCE ON LDC COMMITMENTS TO MEETING DOMESTIC BASIC NEEDS. ALONG THIS LINE, ANOTHER DC DELEGATION (NETHERLANDS) FELT THAT STATEMENT MIGHT BE SEEN AS SOMEWHAT "NEO-COLONIALIST". FINALLY, SOME OBSERVED THAT MORE NARROWLY FOCUSING UNDP PROGRAMS AS PROPOSED IN OUR STATEMENT MIGHT BE INCONSISTENT WITH OUR GOAL OF ENHANCING UNDP ROLE AS CENTRAL FUNDING MECHANISM FOR UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AS A WHOLE.

4. SOME SPECIALIZED AGENCIES' REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER IMPLICATIONS FOR THEIR REGULAR PROGRAMS (E.G. WHO) OF OUR EMPHASIS ON NEED TO CONCENTRATE WITHIN UNDP THE FUNDING FOR THEIR OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES; AND OVER LACK OF CLARITY IN IDENTIFYING PRECISELY WHAT WE MEAN BY BASIC NEEDS (E.G. UNESCO).

5. ON BALANCE, BELIEVE OUR STATEMENT FUNDAMENTALLY IN LINE WITH THOSE OF MOST OTHER DC DELEGATIONS AND WILL CONTRIBUTE TO STIMULATION GC AND UNDP ADMINISTRATION THINKING ALONG LINES OUR PROPOSED REFORMS. GC CHAMBER WAS FULL AND ATTENTIVE.

6. USSR AND SWAPO DELEGATIONS WERE ALSO AMONG SPEAKERS DURING SAME AFTERNOON. SOVIET'S STATEMENT WAS TYPICALLY HEAVY-HANDED EFFORT LARGELY INTENDED TO JUSTIFY ITS TIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNDP. SWAPO'S INCLUDED POLITICAL COMMENTS REGARDING ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCERN OVER APPARENT FAILURE CURRENT FIRE-POWER EFFORT REGARDING NAMIBIA TO COME TO GRIPS WITH ISSUES THAT SWAPO CONSIDERS TO BE KEY IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA (E.G., MILITARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS). SORENSON

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Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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